
Celebrating 25 Years
of the
**Conservation
Reserve Program**

CRP — On the Ground

CREP Project

Saves Streams
Walla Walla Co.



Grass Filter Strip

Protects Peone
Creek,
Spokane Co.



CRP Creates

Wildlife Park
Spokane Co.



CRP Provides

Farm Balance
Whitman Co.



CREP Preserves

Family Lifestyle in
Whatcom Co.



Business Grows

with CRP in
Whitman Co.



Whitman County Contour Buffer Strip—Photo by Patrick Lewis

For 25 years, farmers and ranchers in Washington state have voluntarily changed the management of environmentally sensitive lands from crop land to conservation use under the Conservation Reserve Program. The program started with the objective to reduce soil erosion and manage supply of commodity crops such as wheat and corn. Almost immediately, it changed to have the primary purpose of benefitting the environment.

CRP is one of the most successful conservation programs for reducing soil erosion in the state. It has significantly increased wildlife habitat in the state and the recreational opportunities associated with wildlife.

CRP in Washington - The state has more than 1.4 million acres (1,415,000) enrolled in CRP. The Conservation Reserve Program includes 4 subprograms:

General CRP - land competitively bid into the program so that contracts with the greatest environmental benefit per taxpayer dollar spent are funded.

Continuous CRP - Contracts addressing specific environmental priorities such as conservation buffer strips and filter strips.

CREP - The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) which is a state and federal partnership to target the state identified priority of enhancing habitat for threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead.

SAFE - The State Acres for Wildlife Enhancement which is a state and federal partnership designed to meet state wildlife priorities.